

Retiree News

Serving Hawai'i National Guard Retirees

Issue 124

June 13, 2011

Retiree News contains information about benefits, National Guard events, and news about current, former, and retired members. There will be no chain e-mail, cute pictures, or sales pitches. Publication of *Retiree News* is on a random schedule – as topics come up and time permits. If you change your mind about receiving issues of *Retiree News*, send an e-mail to retireenews@hawaiiintel.net and you will be off the *Retiree News* mailing list.

BENEFIT UPDATES

★ Keep your DEERS Records Updated. It is very important to keep your DEERS records updated, especially when personal eligibility information changes. This includes changes in military status, addressees, and family status (marriage, divorce, births, adoptions, etc.). Mistakes in your DEERS record can cause problems with TRICARE claims and other entitlements. Contact your nearest military identification card issuing facility to update your DEERS record.

To locate your nearest military ID card facility, visit the Defense Manpower Data Center (DMDC) website at: www.dmdc.osd.mil/rsl or contact the DMDC/DEERS Support Office (DSO) at 1-800-538-9552 for further assistance. Sponsor or family member who is on record may update their contact information on the internet at: www.dmdc.osd.mil/mmydodbenefits or by calling the DMDC/DEERS Support Office toll free at 1-800-538-9552.

You may also write to the:

DMDC/DEERS Support Office
400 Gigling Road
Seaside, California 93955-6771

Or fax the new address to 831-655-8317 (NOT toll free).

Please include the sponsor's Social Security number on all correspondence.



★ Commissary On-Site Sale Coming to Kauai. [Doug Hammer](#), the Guard and Reserve Outreach Coordinator for the Defense Commissary Agency (DeCA) sent the following email announcing another commissary on-site sale on Kauai.

Take advantage of spectacular savings on popular grocery items at the Commissary On-site Sale. The Pearl Harbor Commissary is hosting an On-site Sale at Barking Sands Pacific Missile Range Facility (PMRF) in Kekaha, Hawai'i.

Location: Barking Sands (PMRF, Air Operations Hanger)
Pacific Missile Range Facility
Kekaha, Hawai'i 96752

Dates: Thursday, June 16, 2011: 1200 to 1700
Friday, June 17, 2011: 0900 to 1700
Saturday, June 18, 2011: 0900 to 1500

Point of Contact: Pearl Harbor Commissary Point of Contact

Eyvinne Umemoto, (808) 471-8402 Ext: 101

National Guard and Reserve members, military retirees, active-duty military service members, and authorized dependents can take advantage of the great commissary savings.

All authorized commissary shoppers are invited to the sale, sponsored by the Pearl Harbor Commissary. [Commissaries.com](http://www.commissaries.com) - [Pearl Harbor Commissary](http://www.commissaries.com). The commissary has expanded its reach to Guard and Reserve members in particular by bringing the benefit to you via these On-site Sales to areas with military populations not served by a nearby commissary. Sale items may include paper products, soap and cleaning products, canned goods, sodas, sport drinks, water, laundry detergents, and a variety of other products at a savings that average 50 percent or more!

Customers must present an appropriate Department of Defense ID card that authorizes commissary privileges in order to shop. Cash, checks, debit cards and credit cards are accepted for payment. The use of coupons is highly encouraged!

For more information on commissaries:

<http://www.commissaries.com/>

<http://www.facebook.com/YourCommissary>

<http://twitter.com/TheCommissary>

<http://www.youtube.com/user/DefenseCommissary?feature=mhum>

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/commissary/>



★ Lightning Safety. With the two big lightning storms in May and June over Oahu, there has been increased interest in lightning and lightning safety. NOAA's lightning safety slogan is **When Thunder Roars, Go Indoors!**

The following link takes you to a National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) site that provides lots of information about lightning and lightning safety.

<http://www.lightningsafety.noaa.gov/>

★ Social Security at Age 62. The following was taken from a letter to [The Army and Air Force Mutual Aid Association](#) members about starting your Social Security at age 62. The information is basic and you should contact your financial and tax advisors prior to making this important life decision. No endorsement of the Army and Air Force Mutual Aid Association is made or implied.

You are eligible to apply for Social Security benefits at age 62. However, your benefit is permanently reduced to 75% of your Primary Insurance Amount (the amount you would get by waiting until your Full Retirement Age (FRA) of 66). Starting your benefits early also reduces the eventual survivor benefit to your spouse. You should also know that if you take early benefits and then have earned income before reaching your Full Retirement Age, benefits are reduced by \$1 for every \$2 you earn above a

modest threshold amount that increase each year. After reaching FRA, there is no reduction in benefits due to earned income.

If you choose to apply for early benefits, you should contact the Social Security Administration 1-3 months prior to your 62nd birthday at 800-772-1213, or on their website, www.socialsecurity.gov, to schedule an appointment. You will need the following documents (which will be returned to you by the SSA afterward):

- An original or certified record of your birth
- Your original DD 214s for all periods of military service. (If you cannot locate yours, you can obtain one from the National Personnel Records, 9700 Page Avenue, St. Louis, MO 63132-5100, telephone 314-801-0800.
- If applicable, your W-2 form for the year prior to application.

Your spouse is also eligible to receive Social Security retirement benefits at age 62 upon EITHER:

- his or her own earnings record, if 40 credits have been earned
- based upon your wages under the spousal benefit, providing you have been married for at least one year.

★ Benefit Websites:

Press CTRL and Click on underlined title to go to the respective website. The information on these websites is updated regularly. Readers should check these sites often.

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| ✓ Air Force Afterburner Newsletter | ✓ Air Force Retiree Services |
| ✓ Army Echos Newsletter | ✓ Defense Commissary Agency |
| ✓ DFAS Retirement Pay | ✓ Joint Base Pearl Harbor Hickam MWR |
| ✓ Military.Com Benefits Summary | ✓ National Resource Directory |
| ✓ Office of Veterans Service Newsletter | ✓ Space "A" Travel |
| ✓ State Side Legal | ✓ TRICARE |
| ✓ TriWest Healthcare Alliance | ✓ Veterans Affairs |
| ✓ VA Benefits Summary 2010 | |

RETIREE UPDATES



★ HNGEA Retiree Outreach Breakfast. **MSG (Ret) Ivan Felix** is the Chair of the Hawai'i National Guard Enlisted Association' Continuity and Retiree Committee. He emailed the following information about an upcoming retiree information breakfast the HNGEA is planning. There will be more information about the event in *Retiree News* as they become available. Sounds like a great way to reconnect with your fellow Guardmembers and receive some veteran benefits and programs. Send in your suggestions to help the event planning committee.

To all Hawai'i National Guard enlisted retirees:

Your Hawai'i National Guard Enlisted Association (HNGEA) is currently planning a retiree information breakfast scheduled for mid/late Fall 2011 (October-November). During this breakfast our aim is to reach out to our Hawai'i National Guard Army & Air enlisted retirees, to inform you of HNGEA updates/events/activities, and reengage our retirees in their enlisted association membership. We are also looking into having various veterans groups join us to talk about their programs and benefits currently available for retirees and veterans.

The HNGEA membership committee will be sponsoring the breakfast; to ensure we host our retirees properly, we would like to confirm number of retirees that are interested in attending for a headcount.

If you would like to provide suggestions to the committee on any topics/issues/concerns of interest, and/or would like to hear from a specific veterans group, please let us know as we value hearing from you.

You may send your headcount and suggestions to ivan.felix@us.army.mil.

★ Checking Out Old Photos. **Steven Lum** of the State Department of Defense's Public Affairs Office shared this photo with *Retiree News*. Thanks to Steve for his support!



This photo has a very young **CPT Paul Nanamori** and an unidentified soldier during recovery operations after Hurricane Iniki in 1992.

1992 was the most active Pacific hurricane season on record. The most notable storm was Hurricane Iniki. It passed directly over the island of Kauai on September 11, 1992 as a Category 4 hurricane on the [Saffir-Simpson Hurricane Scale](#). The hurricane caused billions of dollars of damage to the

Hawaiian Islands. In Hawaiian, *iniki* means "strong and piercing wind", and Hurricane Iniki was the most powerful hurricane to strike the Hawaii in recorded history.

Hawai'i Army and Air National Guard members were activated to provide support on Kauai. They were involved with cleanup operations that started a long recovery by the island's residents.

LTC Paul Nanamori continues to serve in the Hawai'i Army National Guard.



★ Congratulations to **CSM (Ret) Robert Inouye** and **CPT Livingston Hickling** for the outstanding job they did spearheading the recent 29th Infantry Brigade reunion. They worked to combine the annual memorial service with a reunion of brigade members. There were over 40 retirees attending and it was a great event. Same time next year?

★ AT&T Cellphones for Soldiers Program. AT&T will kick off their Cellphones for Soldiers Program on July 1, 2011. The objective is to collect old cellphones and use the funds from recycling to send prepaid cards to soldiers deployed overseas.

There will be more details of this program as the start date approaches. But if you have an old cellphone, **hold on to it** and you can donate it to this important program that affects our deployed military members. More to come.

★ Your editor ran into **Daniel Eum** who works on the IT support team at the National Weather Service office on the University of Hawai'i, Mānoa. Danny was a communications officer who served in the 201st Combat Communications Group in the late 80s. Great seeing Danny!

★ Passings

These Hawai'i National Guard retirees and those who served with the Guard passed away recently. They all served honorably and added something to our unique culture here in the Guard. Aloha Pumehana to all....



Herbert Kalani Padello, 73, of Waianae, passed away on April 30, 2011. A Hawai'i Air National Guard retiree, died in Las Vegas. He was born in Honolulu. He is survived by wife Dixie; sons Rollen and Mark; daughters **SMSgt Vickie Padello**, **MSgt (Ret) Donna Hoadley**, Lynette Padello-Greenstein and Keely Rivera; brothers Raymond and Rodney Padello, and Wallace, Warren and Patrick Fo, 30 grandchildren; and 14 great-grandchildren.

Ronald Chotoku Fukuhara, 85, of Aiea, passed away on May 19, 2011. A retired Hawai'i Army National Guard Sergeant Major and machinist, died in St. Francis Hospice West. He was born in Puuloa. He is survived by wife Iris H.; sons Patrick S. and Calvin J.; daughter Louise E.; brothers Charles A., Frederick C. and George A.; sister Betty C. Ishii; three grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.



William Peter Kamealoha, also known as "Funa" and "Kung Kung," 81, of Pearl City, passed away on May 21, 2011. A retired Ahuna Leeward Interiors on-site supervisor and a Hawai'i Army National Guard veteran. He was born in Kona. He is survived by wife Qunny "Popo"; sons Donald Ahuna and William Jr., Warren, Wendell and Adolph Kamealoha; daughters Donna C. Wong, Cheryl Ann Kamealoha, Francine Gooman and Mary Ann Omerod; brothers William K. Panui and Peter C. Kamealoha Jr.; sister Sarah K. Kamakee; 54 grandchildren; 98 great-grandchildren; 11 great-great-grand-children and a great-great-great-grandchild.



Francis Tonaki, 65, of Honolulu, passed away on June 1, 2011. An Army Corps of Engineers employee and a veteran of the Hawai'i Army National Guard, 29th Brigade, died in Hale Ho Aloha. He was born in Honolulu. He is survived by mother Jane S. and brother Carl.

George Shibuya, 71, of Waiohinu, Hawai'i, passed away on June 4, 2011 in Kona Community Hospital. A retired Kau Sugar Mill mechanic and a Hawai'i Army

National Guard veteran, died. He was born in Pahala, Hawai'i. He is survived by wife Jean; brothers Franklin, Rodgers, Floyd and Harold; and sister Patricia Merritt.

ORGANIZATIONAL NEWS

★ DOD Seeks Input From Employers of Guardsmen, Reservists. Washington, June 10, 2011 - Defense Department officials want to hear by July 6 from the civilian employers of reservists and National Guardsmen in a survey intended to measure the impact of service members on the civilian workplace. Announced in March, the Department of Defense National Survey of Employers will indicate how the past decade of war and the heavy use of reserve-component forces have affected civilian employers, officials said. It is the first time employers have been the center of such a survey, they added.

"Officials are encouraging all survey recipients who have not yet submitted their responses to do so today to ensure the study captures reliable results," said Beth Sherman, a spokeswoman for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve, a Defense Department agency. "Based on scheduled follow-up calls to employers invited to participate, the department learned a large portion of employers wanted to complete the survey via hard copy, versus participating online," Sherman said. "July 6 was set to allow ample time for those surveys to be returned, and this deadline affords employers the opportunity to provide comprehensive replies."

DOD officials contacted 80,000 employers of all sizes and industries in every state and territory during March and April to gain insight into the benefits and challenges of employing members of the Guard and reserves. So far, Sherman said, enough surveys have come back to validate the results, but officials hope to hear from as many more employers as possible. "As surveys continue coming in, the feedback equips DOD to build on the success of the past and chart a mutually beneficial course for the future," Sherman said.

Because Guard and Reserve members make up nearly 50 percent of the military's total strength, Sherman said, feedback from employers is important. "The Department of Defense wants to learn how we can help sustain the incredible support America's employers have shown our Guard and Reserve members through nearly 10 years of ongoing military operations," she said, "and employer participation in this survey is critical."

Sherman said employers can click on the survey link on the ESGR website to give their feedback on employing members of the Guard and Reserve. Those who want to submit the hard-copy version of the survey must postmark responses by June 30, she added. Employers who believe they received the survey, but need assistance, should visit the website to learn how they can still participate, Sherman said.

Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve is a Department of Defense agency established in 1972 to develop and maintain employer support for Guard and Reserve service. ESGR advocates relevant initiatives, recognizes outstanding support, increases awareness of applicable laws, and resolves conflict between service members and employers. Paramount to ESGR's mission is encouraging employment of Guardsmen and Reservists who bring integrity, global perspective and proven leadership to the civilian workforce

By Terri Moon Cronk, American Forces Press Service

★ Officials Suggest New Role for More Capable Reserve Force. Washington, June 3, 2011 - Capabilities gained from a decade of combat have transformed military reserve components into a full-spectrum operational force that should be integrated into the active fighting force, a defense official said today. Paul Patrick, deputy assistant secretary of defense for reserve affairs for readiness training and mobilization, briefed an audience here on the Comprehensive Review of the Future Role of the Reserve Component, approved by Defense Secretary Robert M. Gates on April 27.

The report calls on the Defense Department to institutionalize experiences and integration that has occurred among the National Guard and reserves over the last 10 years after operations in Iraq and Afghanistan are over, Patrick said. The reserve components study was a product of the Pentagon's Quadrennial Defense Review, completed last year. The review called for a comprehensive look at the roles of the National Guard and reserves, and the balance between active and reserve forces.

Dennis M. McCarthy, assistant secretary of defense for reserve affairs, and Marine Corps Gen. James E. Cartwright, vice chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, were co-chairs in the review.

"The 21st century will require the United States to maintain an array of forces that can consistently win across the full spectrum of military operations on a global scale," McCarthy and Cartwright wrote in the study foreword. "These forces must be augmented by an accessible and ready pool of reinforcing and complementary capabilities, some of which will reside in our reserve components," they added, noting that "the policies and practices necessary to use the National Guard and reserve as the report suggests have not been fully institutionalized."

At the briefing, Robert Smiley, principal deputy for readiness training and mobilization in the office of the assistant secretary of defense for reserve affairs, said 24 DOD agencies participated in the study, which offered seven suggestions for best use of the part-time military force.

In its current role -- as units, teams and individuals -- the reserve component participates in overseas conflicts, defends the homeland against external attacks and supports civil authorities in response to attacks or natural disasters. In major combat operations it augments and reinforces the national effort with combat and support forces, supports combatant commanders worldwide and supports the efforts of the military services to preserve the all-volunteer force.

According to the report, several options exist for rebalancing capabilities in the total military force. These include relying on the reserve component when building force structure to avoid shortfalls or expand capacity, assigning some recurring operational missions to reserve component units, and establishing long-term relationships between specific guard or reserve units and individual combatant commands.

"If you have the same people come back to the same well several times, we think that works out better, and this long-term relationship we think is a good deal," Smiley said. "[Intelligence] people do that now," he added. "A lot of [reserve] folks work on intel things, and the intel folks see the same people over and over again. It's a good idea to build these relationships."

Other options include establishing national or regional reserve units staffed with people who are willing to serve on active duty more often or for longer periods than usual based on individual missions, and using reservists to respond to emerging needs like cyber defense.

"How do I capture [an] engineer from Microsoft and say to him, 'You don't have to join the military all the time, but we need your expertise for this requirement?' Smiley asked. "What can we do in the reserves?" he continued. "How do we recruit that person, how do we retain that person, and what's the proper way to compensate that person?"

The report also suggested integrating active and reserve forces into blended units, and assigning some institutional support tasks -- recruiting, organizing, supplying, equipping, training and others -- to reserve-component units, teams or individuals.

Without employing the Guard and reserves, the report says, "the United States cannot continue to remain engaged globally, given DOD's current force structure."

By Cheryl Pellerin, American Forces Press Service

★ Organizational News Links:

Press CTRL and Click on underlined title to go to the respective website. *Retiree News* readers should visit the Organization News Links below on a regular basis. Some are reluctant to visit the sites and navigate around the various sub links. These sites contain lots of information and lots of photos.

- ✓ [State DoD website](#)
- ✓ [154th Wing website](#)
- ✓ [29th IBCT Facebook page](#)
- ✓ [1-487th FA Facebook page](#)
- ✓ [HIANG Facebook page](#)
- ✓ [HIANG Flickr site](#)
- ✓ [HIANG Spouse and Family Association website](#)
- ✓ [Current Issue of *Soldiers Magazine*](#)
- ✓ [Current Issue of *Airman Magazine*](#)
- ✓ [Past issues of the *Kūkā‘ilimoku*](#)
- ✓ [Past issues of *Retiree News*](#)

READER UPDATES

★ The Wanted List

We are looking for these *Retiree News* readers because their e-mail addresses on file for them no longer works. Others on the list are former or retired members we want to contact. Please forward their new e-mail address to retireenews@hawaiiantel.net if you can share them. Thanks for your support.

Spenser Napoleon

J.C. Clark

Ronald Mendoza

Jason Nakamura

Steve Ware

Ken Sonan

Gordon Doo

George Lumives

Chris Wilson

Michele Eliana

Russell Campos

Mark Waddell

Katherine Asato

There are over 1500 *Retiree News* readers. Be sure to ask your fellow retirees that you meet if they receive *Retiree News*. If not, forward their e-mail address to retireenews@hawaiiintel.net. Mahalo for your support!

Following are the new or updated e-mail addresses sent in by the individuals or *Retiree News* readers – Mahalo for adding or updating your e-mail address.

Mel Enoki (update)
Herbert Walker
Manuel Moniz

David Perreira
Roderick Cabacungan

★ Rules of Engagement (ROE)

Periodically, someone e-mails a request for contact information for another *Retiree News* reader. We forward that e-mail to the other reader for their action. This preserves the privacy of the reader and their e-mail address.

UPCOMING EVENTS

The events listed are by the event date. The red star ★ denotes new or updated post since the last issue of *Retiree News*.



★ Farewell Luncheon for LTC Furubayashi. There will be retirement luncheon for **LTC Clara K. Furubayashi** on Monday, June 20, 2011. She retires after 32 years of service to the Hawai'i Army National Guard. Her last assignment was the Mobilization Readiness Division Chief for the Headquarters, HIARNG Element, Joint Force Headquarters Hawai'i Army National Guard. A truly outstanding Guardmember!

Send congratulatory email to: clara.furubayashi@us.army.mil

When: Monday, June 20, 2011, starting at 1100
Where: The Willows Restaurant
[901 Hausten Street, Honolulu, Hawaii 96826](#)
Cost: \$35.00 (Meal + Gift)
\$5.00 (Gift Only)
Checks made to: **Edwin Lau**
Attire: Military: Uniform of the Day
Civilian: Aloha Attire
RSVP: Wednesday, June 15, 2011
POC: **SGT Edwin Lau**, 808-672-1389

★ First Annual Big Island Veteran's Day Golf Tournament. You are invited to participate in the First Big Island Veteran's Day Golf Tournament which will be held on August 27, 2011. This fun filled golf challenge is a fund raiser to benefit the annual Big Island Veteran's Day Parade.

Contact the POC for more information and to get an entry form.

When: Saturday, August 27, 2010

"Even the palest ink is better than the best memory." - Chinese proverb

Time: Check-in starts at 0600, shotgun start at 0700
Where: Hilo Municipal Golf Course, Hilo, Hawai'i
Cost: \$75.00 per person. Cost includes green fees, cart, prizes, and bento. Awards banquet at the Muni Restaurant follows the tournament.
Checks payable to "*Big Island RC&D*". Mail checks to:
Big Island RC&D
101 Aupuni Street, Suite 115
Hilo, Hawaii 96720
Or drop off at the Hilo Municipal Pro Shop
RSVP by: Thursday, August 14, 2010
POCs: **Dan Kama**, 968-7425

★ **SAVE THE DATE:** DOD Retirement and Service Awards Luncheon. Friday, September 9, 2011 is the date for the next State Department of Defense Retirement and Awards Luncheon. The luncheon will honor retirees, service award winners, and the Adjutant General's Award and State Team of the Year Award.

The names of the honorees attending will announced as their RSVPs are received.

When: Friday, September 9, 2011
Where: Hale Koa Hotel, Banyan Tree Showroom
Time: 1100-1300
Cost: \$30.00 (includes 15% gratuity)
Checks payable to "*DoD Retirement and Service Award Fund*"

Retirees: contact **CMSgt Deb Brownhill**, 672-1233 or debra.brownhill@us.army.mil



★ **SAVE THE DATE:** Hawai'i National Guard Birthday Commemoration. This year's Hawai'i National Guard Birthday Commemoration is on Saturday, December 10, 2011. This joint event celebrates the 375th Birthday of our National Guard's beginnings. Future issues will provide more specific information about the Birthday Commemoration events.